

need for increased services to crime victims in Connecticut, it is clear that removal of the cap is necessary to ensure that Connecticut will be able to meet the needs of crime victims."

The Victims of Crime Fairness Act of 2003 is common sense legislation. I ask my colleagues to join me in helping victims of crime by eliminating the VOCA fund spending cap.

PERMITTING USE OF ROTUNDA OF
CAPITOL FOR CEREMONY AS
PART OF COMMEMORATION OF
DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VIC-
TIMS OF HOLOCAUST

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support of H. Con Res 40, to allow the use of the Capitol rotunda for a ceremony to commemorate victims of the Holocaust. Our Nation's capitol is a symbol of freedom and democracy to so many. This resolution gives us a forum to pay service to the victims of the Holocaust. I pray that such a tragedy should never touch the world again.

A Holocaust memorial is not something to be taken lightly, or to be rushed without its due respect. The Holocaust is a product of authoritarian government and evil intentions, and we must continue to study and remember it, lest it be repeated. Hate, genocide, racial supremacism still occur in parts of the world and I believe that we as Americans can still focus our efforts on stopping them before they grow to an uncontrollable magnitude.

My heart goes out to the victims and survivors of Adolf Hitler's death camps. Every time I reexamine the Holocaust, and pay tribute to what happened, I am still shocked and pained by the organized, methodical killing that went on in Europe.

For the 12 million people that Nazi Germany exterminated, we must remember. For each of the six million Jews killed, we must respond. For the Gypsies, the gays, the political dissenters and any of the righteous people who spoke out against what they thought was evil—for this we commemorate and remember the Holocaust. It can never happen again.

RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM
BARRET SIMS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William Barret Sims, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, earning the ranks of bobcat, wolf, bear, and webelos as well as participating in summer camp at H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation and earning the status of warrior in the tribe of

Mic-O-Say. During the ten years he has been involved in scouting, he has earned 35 merit badges and is Brotherhood Member of The Order of the Arrow. William also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements, earning the bear claw award, the God & Me award, the arrow of light award, and the god and church award. William has also served in many leadership capacities, including patrol leader, assistant patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leader.

For his Eagle Scout project, William planned, designed, and with the help of fellow scouts, built an outdoor storage shed for a habitat for humanity home located in Kansas City north, providing much needed storage space for the lawn and outdoor equipment of the homeowners.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William Barret Sims for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PATIENT
NAVIGATOR, OUTREACH, AND
CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION
ACT OF 2003

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I'm pleased to be joined by my Colleague from Ohio, DEBORAH PRYCE, to introduce the Patient Navigator, Outreach, and Chronic Disease Prevention Act of 2003.

The existence of significant health disparities in this nation is undeniable. For years, research has told us that minorities and low-income populations are the least likely to receive the health care they need to live a long, healthy life. We've done a very good job of identifying this problem—it's high time we do something to solve it.

That's why I'm very excited about the bill we are introducing today and the strong support we've already received for it. The bill is supported by the American Cancer Society, the National Association of Community Health Centers, the National Alliance for Hispanic Health, the National Hispanic Medical Association, the Intercultural Cancer Council and their Caucus, the National Council of La Raza, 100 Black Men of America, the National Rural Health Association, Dean and Betty Gallo Prostate Cancer Center, MHz Networks, Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, Dia de la Mujer Latina, Inc., the Cancer Research and Prevention Foundation, and the National Patient Advocate Foundation.

This bill addresses what I believe are the root causes of health disparities in minority and underserved communities: lack of access to health care in general—and particularly lack of access to prevention and early detection—as well as language and cultural barriers to care.

The bottom line is: the only way to stay healthy is to see a doctor when you are healthy. Yes, there are a number of explanations for the higher rates of disease among minority populations, including higher rates of uninsured, reduced access to care, and lower quality of care. But all of these barriers point

to the same underlying problem, minority patients are less likely to receive early screening and detection, so their disease is found at a much later stage and they have less chance of survival.

The bill we're introducing today will ensure that all Americans, regardless of race, ethnicity, language, income, or geography, will have access to prevention screening and treatment, and that they will have an advocate at their side, helping them navigate through today's complicated health care system.

It does this by building upon the existing infrastructure of the Consolidated Health Center program, the Indian Health Service, the Office of Rural Health Policy, and the National Cancer Institute.

It creates model programs to ensure that people are educated about the importance of prevention screening and early detection. A key component of the proposal is year-round outreach to the target community, in a language that they can understand.

It funds culturally and linguistically competent providers that reach out into the community, build their trust, build relationships, and educate the public, while providing prevention screenings and follow-up treatment.

And it ensures that navigators are available to help patients make their way through the health care system—whether it's translating technical medical terminology, making sense of their insurance, making appointments for referral screenings, following-up to make sure the patient keeps that appointment, or even accompanying a patient to a referral appointment.

The original concept for the legislation comes from Dr. Freeman's "navigator" program, which he created while he was Director of Surgery at Harlem Hospital. Recently, I was fortunate to get to visit Dr. Huerta's local Cancer Preventorium, which replicates Dr. Freeman's navigator concept within a comprehensive model of prevention services. This bill will translate the work of Dr. Harold Freeman and Dr. Elmer Huerta into a legislative model for cancer and chronic disease prevention and treatment for minorities and underserved communities.

The track record of these programs speaks for itself. It's very clear that these are not new ideas or new concepts, they're models that have been proven to work. And it's time that we take what's worked and use it to benefit underserved populations across the country. That's exactly what this legislation will do.

HONORING MR. VICTOR MANUEL
ARRAÑAGA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Mr. Victor Manuel Arrañaga and his contributions to his family and community. Mr. Arrañaga was a man who worked hard all his life to better the lives of those around him. He was also a man who instilled important values in his family and practiced those values everyday towards those around him. He died on December 30, 2002.

Mr. Arrañaga grew up in Del Rio, Texas, where he operated the Arrañaga and Sons